[20th October 1927

Eligibility of depressed classes to vote at elections.

* 737 Q.—Mr. S. VENKAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received representations urging them to abolish the system of nomination altogether and make every individual of the depressed classes above the age of 20 or 25 years eligible to vote irrespective of any property qualification; and

(b) whether the Government are contemplating this or any other method which would confer on the majority of the Adi-Andhras the right to vote at elections to local boards and municipal councils, and if so, to describe the same?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government have under consideration a proposal to replace nominations by elections; they have considered no proposal regarding electoral qualifications for Adi-Andhras.

Municipal Councils

Nominations to the Vellore Municipal Council.

* 738 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR: Will the
11-15 a.m. hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to the nominations to the Vellore Municipal Council whether the five nominees were recommended by the district authorities for nomination?

A.—The Government are not prepared to furnish the information.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the district authorities have been consulted in the matter?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is a matter between the Government and the district authorities."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Inasmuch as it is a Transferred subject, Sir, may I know from the hon. the Minister whether the district authorities were at least consulted in the matter, not to speak of their recommendation being given effect to or not?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The district authorities were consulted."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know who the district authorities are?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"In regard to the municipal councils, it is generally the Collector of the district."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Exceptionally?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"There is no exception to the rule."